

# Weekly Bulletin

## Friday 29th September 2023

**David Clark - Head**



Dear Parents,

There are many aspects of life at Cranbrook which set it apart from most other maintained schools and one of those is the wonderful House system that is embedded in the very fabric of the School. The significance of the Houses goes back many years and each is named after someone associated with Cranbrook's rich history. Some Houses are named after long-serving headmasters and others after eminent doctors and philanthropists. One takes its name from the School's chief benefactor, another from a former Chair of Governors whilst one of our newest Houses is linked to a notable astronaut who took the School's Charter into space. For students, understanding the origins of their House is important in connecting them to it and I would ask that you challenge each of your children to name the founder of their Houses, day or boarding.

Due to the key role that our Houses play in the day-to-day life of students, the inter-House events are much anticipated and usually very competitive. A great annual tradition is the cross-country race and it was fantastic to see so many taking part yesterday. For some, it proved to be a manageable physical challenge but for others it was pretty gruelling and they had to dig deep in order to finish the course. A good number of the students who competed find running long distance difficult, and their active participation speaks volumes about the House spirit that exists and that was particularly heartening to see. Many thanks to all the PE staff for organising the afternoon and well done to all the runners as well as to those who came to cheer.

I may well be taken to task for this – but I sense that the boarding Houses have the edge when it comes to getting students to rally to the cause. I have spent time in each of the boarding Houses and it is clear that the boarders are fiercely proud of their Houses and that they connect deeply with their House identity. Parents of boarders appear equally proud of their child's House and that was confirmed to me when I (virtually) met with a group of boarding parents this week. It was really helpful to get their feedback and, together with the fantastic boarding staff, we are committed to developing our boarding provision in order to ensure that Cranbrook is first choice for prospective parents looking for an outstanding state boarding school.

Have a lovely weekend and I may well see some of you on Big Side tomorrow afternoon to watch the 1st XV's first home match of the season.

Best wishes,

David



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### David Carney - Deputy Head

Just a quick reminder about the busy week ahead:

#### Charity Walk Monday 2nd October 2023:

The Charity Walk takes place next Monday, with all students in Years 7 to 12 walking and most of Year 13 helping on the day as footpath marshals or supporting with the administration in school. The 13km route is from Scotney back to Cranbrook, mostly on footpaths through the Wealden countryside and forests. Adults supervise the road crossings and there will be a BBQ lunch on route. At present, the forecast is good and students should wear comfortable outdoor clothing suitable for a warm autumn day (no vests). Footwear should be walking boots or properly laced training shoes only. Everyone must bring at least one full water bottle. Any student that is unable to walk will help with administration in the Sports Hall. We anticipate that the walk will be finished by 3.35pm.



All students will need to hand in their [sponsor form](#) before departing on Monday. The aim is for everyone is to raise £25 from friends and family. Please could you ensure that your child has the sponsor form ready to hand in on Monday. Please note that after the walk, the sponsor form is returned and we ask that the money is collected and then given to parents as that amount will be charged to the end of term bill. Please check that your child collects all the money so that it matches what is on the form. Unfortunately we are unable to handle large amounts of cash at school.

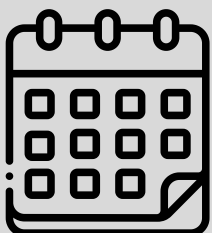
The charities we are raising money for this year are the following: The Sam West Foundation (supporting education and support for young people with mental health issues); The Big Cat Sanctuary at Smarden (an internationally important conservation and breeding centre); FUM – Friends of Urambo & Mwanhala (a charity in Tanzania with a long-standing link to Cranbrook School); British Red Cross - Morocco Earthquake Appeal; BEAT (eating disorder charity – information and support); Nourish Foodbank (a local charity supplying food parcels to those in need) and Anthony Nolan (saving the lives of people with blood cancer). Thank you for your support.

#### Whole School Photo:

On Wednesday (4th October) Gillman and Soames will be coming in to take the whole school photo (weather permitting), I am looking forward to seeing all students looking smart.

#### Flu Vaccinations:

On Friday (6th October) – Kent Immunisation team will be in to administer the seasonal flu vaccinations (nasal spray) to students in Years 7 - 11. Please ensure that students have eaten breakfast that morning and that you have completed the consent form (reminder sent via ParentMail on Monday 25th September) to confirm or decline your permission, with a YES or NO. The link will be live until Monday 2nd October.



#### Dates for your diary:

Monday 2nd October:	Charity Walk
Wednesday 4th October:	Whole school photograph
Thursday 5th October:	Duke of Edinburgh Information Evening for Year 9 students
Tuesday 10th October:	Open Morning for prospective Years 7 & 9 students
Wednesday 11th October:	Year 7 Parents' Evening
Friday 13th October:	Last day of term

You can find up-to-date term dates, lesson timings and A/B week calendar on the website [here](#).  
Menus can be found on the website [here](#).

For any queries, please contact: [development@cranbrook.kent.sch.uk](mailto:development@cranbrook.kent.sch.uk)



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### Reminder from the Medical Centre:

A reminder from the Medical Centre that day students should only attend the Medical Centre if they become unwell in the school day, sustain an injury or have a long-term medical condition. If required, pain relief should be administered at home before the school day.

As we enter the cold and flu season please can we remind parents of the following:

- Send your child in with tissues, throat lozenges and alcohol gel as required.
- If they have a high temperature they should remain at home.
- Please ensure they have a water bottle to keep hydrated. Bottles can be refilled at one of the water fountains on site if required.

Thank you.



### Invitation to Apply for Year 9 Art Scholarship:

The Art Department are excited to announce the opening of applications for the Year 9 Art Scholarship, which aims to recognise and support talented young artists. We encourage students to seize this opportunity to showcase their artistic abilities and passion for the arts.

To be considered for the scholarship, students should submit between three to six examples of their artwork. These can range from paintings to drawings, sculptures, or any other form of visual art that showcases their skills and creativity. Along with their artwork, students should provide a maximum of 300 words explaining why they are eager to become a Year 9 Art scholar.

The deadline for submitting applications is Friday 6th October. Late submissions will not be considered, so we encourage you to start preparing your application as soon as possible.

Please note that the scholarship is open to all Year 9 pupils who have a genuine interest and commitment to art, whether they wish to pursue a career in the arts or simply want to explore and further develop their creative talents, we welcome all applications.

To submit an application, artwork should be emailed as attachments to Mr Kenny. Alternatively, physical copies can be dropped off at the Art Office. Please ensure that written statements are included, either as a separate document or in the body of the email, depending on the chosen method of submission.

Our dedicated panel of judges will carefully review each application and select the most deserving candidates for the scholarship.

If you have any questions or need further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact myself or Mrs Forbes-Gower. We are more than happy to assist you throughout the application process.

We highly encourage students to take advantage of this opportunity to highlight their artistic skills and passion for the arts. We look forward to receiving applications and witnessing the incredible talent that our Year 9 students possess.

Mr Kenny

### Information for Parents - The Risks of Vaping:

Vaping: this [information guide](#) for parents explores the potential risks involved in vaping, a habit which is increasing in popularity among under-18s. Vaping is a specific topic in PSHE lessons in all year groups, and we look forward to welcoming a guest speaker in the Spring term to talk to students more about the risks.

Mrs Harris



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### **Project Poppy for Remembrance Day**

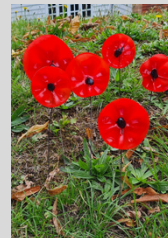
In 2014 the Tower of London was surrounded by the major art installation Blood Swept Lands and Seas to mark one hundred years since the first full day of Britain's involvement in the First World War.

At Cranbrook we hope to do the same around Barham to mark Remembrance Day this year. Each student and member of staff will be asked to 'plant' a poppy to remember all the lives that were lost. There will be approximately 1000 poppies 'planted', 100 of which will be for Old Cranbrookians who lost their lives during the First and Second World Wars.

This a huge undertaking but something that will be remembered for years to come.

We are asking students to please bring in plastic bottles (specifically with a grooved base - see photo) to make the poppies. There are boxes in Barham and in the Art Department marked Project Poppy for these bottles to be collected in.

Thank you for your support.



Mrs Pomeroy - Art Department

### **Cranbrook Apple Fayre** **Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October 11-2pm**

#### **The CSPA need your donations!**

**The CSPA will have a stall on the High Street at this year's Apple Fayre and will be selling homemade cakes etc as well as running the ever-popular tombola.**

**Please leave items for the tombola (chocolates, biscuits, sweets, bottles, nice toiletries) in the hall cupboard in Barham by Friday 6<sup>th</sup> October.**

**Please bring cakes, cookies, muffins, cupcakes directly to the CSPA stall from 9.30am on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October.**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**